Announcement

Order regarding the management of cases alleging violations of 21 Del. C. § 4177 filed in the Court of Common Pleas

By Order dated October 2, 2019, the Delaware Supreme Court has ordered the modification of the <u>Judicial Operating Procedures</u> as it relates to final disposition of cases involving alleged violations of 21 *Del. C.* § 4177, Delaware's Driving-Under-the-Influence-of-Drugs/Alcohol (DUI) law. This Order requires the implementation of a case review process, wherein the State and defendants will have an opportunity to evaluate DUI cases before they are scheduled for trial.

This Order comes after consultation with the Attorney General's office, the Office of Defense Services, the President Judge of Superior Court, the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and members of the private defense bar. The Final Order is available on the Supreme Court's website at https://courts.delaware.gov/rules.

The Order formalizes practices already in effect in two of Delaware's counties and furthers the Delaware Judiciary's overall goal to standardize procedures across all state courts. The Order was approved by all Justices of the Supreme Court on October 2, 2019.

For more information, please contact: Stephanie Fitzgerald, Court of Common Pleas Court Administrator at (302) 255-0870 or Stephanie.Fitzgerald@Delaware.gov